requirement companies have to conduct such studies through private contract research organizations abroad which is very costly.

Pharmaceutical Industry desired to remove such impediments by modifying the Breeding of and Experiments on Animals (Control and Supervision) Rules.

The matter is receiving the attention of the Government.

Bill for monitoring guidelines in medical research

56. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government intend to bring forward a Bill during the Winter Session of Parliament making provision for monitoring guidelines in medical research;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would take care to ensure that the proposed legislation does not contain too many restrictions which would curb the already limited value of medical research currently carried on in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) There is a proposal to make a comprehensive legislation on the ethical guidelines on Bio-Medical Research on human subjects. The need for uniform ethical guidelines for research on human has acquired urgency as the critical issues in the areas of biogenetic research involving human subjects have become acute. The legislation on the ethical guidelines is proposed with a view to ensure compliance by scientific community for protection of basic human rights and safety to research participants.

Funds provided by foreign financial institutions to Assam

57. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds provided by the foreign financial institutions to the Government of Assam for eradication of Malaria, Polio, Cancer, AIDS, Hapatitis-B etc.;

(b) the details of amount spent on these diseases in the State during the last three years; and

(c) the details of achievements made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

WHO warning on Anthrax

58. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Health Organisation (WHO) has urged individuals and organizations to handle mail with care following cases of Anthrax scare in the US and other countries;

(b) whether certain guidelines have been issued in this regard;

(c) the nature of the same;

(d) whether Anthrax cases have been reported during the months of September and October, 2001 in India, and

(e) if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a)Yes, Sir.

(b)Yes, Sir.

(c) The guidelines provide information on how to handle a potentially infected mail, how & where to send it for confirmation and what to do what not to do in case the envelope is leaking or has been opened.

(d) No Anthrax cases have been reported during the months of September and October, 2001 in India.

(e) Question does not arise.

Anthrax bacteria

59. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of Anthrax bacteria have been reported in the capital recently and sent to NICD for investigation;

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;